

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art searched and found have not taught, alone or in combination, the combination of limitations found in the independent claims. More specifically, with regards to independent claims 1, 22, 25, and 29, the prior art searched and found have not taught, in combination with other limitations in the claims and taking claim 1 as exemplary, assigning each interrupt an interrupt execution priority value, specifying an interrupt threshold value higher than the execution priority of each of the threads, and processing an interrupt only when the interrupt execution priority value is higher than the global interrupt threshold value. In addition, with regards to independent claims 41-42, the prior art searched and found have not taught, in combination with other limitations in the claims and taking claim 41 as exemplary, storing trap background data for an asynchronous trap, generating a trap pending indicator for the generating thread, and servicing the asynchronous trap using the background data when the thread resumes execution due to the trap pending indicator.
2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AIMEE J. LI whose telephone number is (571)272-4169. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T 7:00am-4:30pm.

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4. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eddie Chan can be reached on (571) 272-4162. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Aimee J Li/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2183

28 March 2010